From: Bill King

To: Microsoft ATR,antitrust@attorneygeneral.gov@inetgw

Date: 11/23/01 6:03pm **Subject:** Microsoft settlement

I'm writing this brief note to express my displeasure with the recent US Dept. of Justice's Microsoft settlement. I firmly believe that Microsoft should have received harsher penalties for their outrageous conduct. However, I'm somewhat relieved in that some of the state attorney generals (who I've cc'ed on this e-mail) are also not satisfied with the terms of the settlement. I hope they continue to pursue a more appropriate and fair judgement.

While I realize that the drawn-out nature of this lawsuit may have made a settlement attractive, I am disappointed in the lack of any real punishment. The message the current settlement sends is that while a company can engage in unfair practices, any punishment will not reflect or in the slightst way compensate for the damage they cause.

I realize that Microsoft now plays a significant part of the day-to-day economy/stock market of the US and the world to a certain extent. A judgement against them will have a trickle down impact. I feel, though, that any financial impact that a Microsoft punishment might cause would be well worth it considering their predatory and overreaching practices. Their behavior has caused irreparable harm to the computer industry, among others, and I believe they must be stopped or at least punished for what they have wrought. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

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